

REMARKS**I. Status of the Claims**

Claims 2, 4, 5, and 7 have been cancelled without prejudice and without disclaimer. Claims 6, 8 and 9 have been amended. New claim 10 has been added.

Claims 1, 3, 6 and 8-10 are therefore presently pending in the case.

II. Support for the Amended and Newly Added Claims

Claim 6 has been amended to incorporate language from cancelled claim 5. Support for this claim can be found throughout the specification as originally filed, at least at page 15, lines 1-7.

Claims 8 and 9 have been amended to remove reference to cancelled claims, and properly depend the claims on currently pending claims. Support for these claims can be found throughout the specification as originally filed, at least at page 15, lines 1-14.

Claim 10 has been added to specifically recite host cells comprising a recombinant expression vectors that comprises the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1. Support for this claim can be found throughout the specification as originally filed, with particular support being found at least at page 15, lines 8-14, and in claim 9.

It will be understood that no new matter is included within the amended or newly added claims.

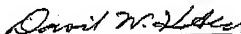
III. Conclusion

Applicants believe that the claims of the instant application meet all of the conditions for patentability and are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, an early indication of the same is respectfully requested. Should Examiner Monshipouri have any questions or comments, or believe that certain amendments of the claims might serve to improve their clarity, a telephone call to the undersigned Applicants' representative is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date



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